

Department of the Army, DoD

§ 518.69

(dd), this part) will be notified promptly of that request and afforded reasonable time (e.g., 30 calendar days) to present any objections concerning the release, unless it is clear that there can be no valid basis for objection. This practice is required for those FOIA requests for data not deemed clearly exempt from disclosure under Exemption (b)(4). If, for example, the record or information was provided with actual or presumptive knowledge of the non-U.S. Government source and established that it would be made available to the public upon request, there is no obligation to notify the source. Any objections shall be evaluated. The final decision to disclose information claimed to be exempt under Exemption (b)(4) shall be made by an official equivalent in rank to the official who would make the decision to withhold that information under the FOIA. When a substantial issue has been raised, the DoD Component may seek additional information from the source of the information and afford the source and requester reasonable opportunities to present their arguments on the legal and substantive issues involved prior to making an agency determination. When the source advises it will seek a restraining order to take court action to prevent release of the record or information, the requester shall be notified, and action on the request normally shall not be taken until after the outcome of that court action is known. When the requester brings court action to compel disclosure, the submitter shall be promptly notified of this action.

(b) The coordination provisions of this paragraph also apply to any non-U.S. Government record in the possession and control of the Department of Defense from multi-national organizations, such as the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) and North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), or foreign governments. Coordination with foreign governments under the provisions of this paragraph shall be made through Department of State.

§ 518.66 File of initial denials.

Copies of all initial denials shall be maintained by each DoD Component in a form suitable for rapid retrieval,

periodic statistical compilation, and management evaluation. Records will be maintained in accordance with AR 25-400-2.

§ 518.67 Special mail services.

DoD Components are authorized to use registered mail, certified mail, certificates of mailing and return receipts. However, their use should be limited to instances where it appears advisable to establish proof of dispatch or receipt of FOIA correspondence.

§ 518.68 Receipt accounts.

The Treasurer of the United States has established two accounts for FOIA receipts. These accounts, which are described below, shall be used for depositing all FOIA receipts, except receipts for industrially-funded and non-appropriated funded activities. Components are reminded that the below account numbers must be preceded by the appropriate disbursing office two digit prefix. Industrially-funded and non-appropriated funded activity FOIA receipts shall be deposited to the applicable fund.

(a) Receipt Account 3210 Sale of Publications and Reproductions, Freedom of Information Act. This account shall be used when depositing funds received from providing existing publications and forms that meet the Receipt Account Series description found in Federal Account Symbols and Titles. Deliver collections within 30 calendar days to the servicing finance and accounting office.

(b) Receipt Account 3210 Fees and Other Charges for Services, Freedom of Information Act. This account is used to deposit search fees, fees for duplicating and reviewing (in the case of commercial requesters) records to satisfy requests that could not be filled with existing publications or forms.

APPEALS

§ 518.69 General.

(a) If the official designated by the DoD Component to make initial determinations on requests for records (IDA) declines to provide a record because the official considers it exempt, that